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ABSTRACT

A sampling of puzzles and games produced by students at North Rockland High School (New York) are presented as an example of a way student-designed activities can be used to cover a specific unit within the health education curriculum. Produced by 9th and 10th graders, the unit on alcohol consists of puzzles and word games using related vocabulary such as Al Anon, Alateen, Chronic Progressive Disease, Intoxicated, and Breathalizer. In addition to the four puzzles, answer keys are provided. (LH)

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The Puzzle Design Activity

Marc E. Meyer

Student oriented activities are an exciting and an interesting way to cover a specific unit within the health education curriculum. One of my favorite activities is "the puzzle design activity." Simply ask the students to design a puzzle or game which can be given to other health classes. These puzzles must relate to the unit under consideration at the time. Some students may find it necessary to work alone while others work well in small groups. Either way is fine as long as students are willing to take part in the activity.

Word games and puzzles are an excellent way to improve vocabulary, reading, writing, and comprehension skills. Students have said of this activity that it was: "interesting," "fun," "challenging," "a different way to learn," and a "better way to learn." We as educators must agree that when we are able to utilize activities which are "interesting," "fun," "challenging," "different," and a "better way to learn," we are ahead of the game and can truly take pride in reaching a group of young people who will play such a major role in years to come.

Below is a sampling of the excellent work produced by students at North Rockland High School. The unit, which achieved a high degree of excellence with respect to this activity, was one on alcohol.

Puzzle I: By Michele, grade 9

Instructions: Use the following letters to help you find words related to alcohol.

1. R G I N A — L O O L A C H
2. O O W D — O O L L C A H
3. G U D R
4. C O O A I C L H L
5. L A — N O N A
6. E T A E N A L
7. T H E L Y — L L A C O H O
8. H O I C C R N

R P G O E R S S V I E

I D E S A E S

Solution to puzzle #1.

1. Grain Alcohol
2. Wood Alcohol
3. Drug
4. Alcoholic
5. Al Anon
6. Alateen
7. Ethyl Alcohol
8. Chronic Progressive Disease

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(Continued)

Puzzle II: By Lisa, grade 9

Instructions: Unscramble the letters after each number to spell a word related to alcohol. Then use *one letter from each word* to answer no. 10.

1. U K **D** N R
2. T D **A** H E
3. G V I **N** D I R
4. O H R N E **G** A V
5. D **E** T A C I X O T N I
6. K S E C **R** L S E
7. M T V I **O**
8. **U** R S M L B E
9. U L D I **S** C A L
10. Alcohol can be: ○○○○○○○○○

Solution to puzzle #2.

1. Drunk
2. Death
3. Driving
4. Hangover
5. Intoxicated
6. Reckless
7. Vomit
8. Slumber
9. Suicidal
10. Dangerous: Alcohol can be DANGEROUS!

Puzzle III: By Steven, grade 10

Instructions: Unscramble the words from clues and then find them in the word-find puzzle.

1. Alcohol produced by fermentation—THYEL.
2. Process through which alcohol is made—MEFRTTENIAON.
3. A non-drinkable form of alcohol made from wood—YLETHM.
4. Disease from the abuse of alcohol—IMSACLOOHL.
5. Common form of alcohol as a beverage—EREB.
6. Device used to detect blood alcohol level—THALYZFBRRE.
7. Alcohol made from the juices of fresh fruit—IWEN.
8. A beverage made the same way as beer—ELA.
9. Alcoholic beverage made from vegetable starches—KYEHISW.
10. Term used to explain about alcoholic content—ROFOP.

Solution to puzzle #3.

1. Ethyl
2. Fermentation
3. Methyl
4. Alcoholism
5. Beer
6. Breathalyzer
7. Wine
8. Ale
9. Whiskey
10. Proof

Puzzle #3: Word-Find

A B E C X Y L M B O R A N E R
M E T H Y L R Z R Z Y X W V U
N E T O P Q A R E E T N E R O
O R O H S T A L A R A W I N E
T A N F Y E D C T B A H F A N
S N W G A L C O H O L I S M Y
Q Q R H L R N O A U V S W X Z
R R W J E S P Q L K L K E D A
S T V L M A B C Y D M E B F N
T P R O O F R S Z E N Y G H O
U M U N O R T F E O P Q I J P
V O T P Q U G H R D C R T U Q
W P S S T V J I K E F S V W A
X Q R X W Y Z L M G H I J M B
F E R M E N T A T I O N K L C

Solution: Word-Find

A **B** E C X Y L M **B** O R A N E R
M **E** **T** **H** **Y** **L** R Z R Z Y X W V U
N **E** **T** **O** P Q A R **E** **E** **T** **N** **E** **R** **O**
O **R** **O** **H** **S** T A L A R A **W** **I** **N** **E**
T A N F **Y** **E** D C **T** B A **H** F A N
S N W G **A** **L** C O **H** O L **I** **S** **M** Y
Q Q R H **L** R N O A U V **S** W X Z
R R W J **E** S P Q **L** K L **K** E D A
S T V L M A B C **Y** D M **E** B F N
T **P** **R** **O** **O** **F** R S Z E N **Y** G H O
U M U N O R T F E O P Q I J P
V O T P Q U G H **R** D C R T U Q
W P S S T V J I K E F S V W A
X Q R X W Y Z L M G H I J M B
F **E** **R** **M** **E** **N** **T** **A** **T** **I** **O** **N** K L C